

PATENT

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GROUP 3700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: RAEDER Examiner: Nguyen, D.  
Serial No.: 09/383,876 Group Art Unit: 3723  
Filed: August 26, 1999 Docket No.: AMDA.316PA  
Title: POLISHING UNIFORMITY VIA PAD CONDITIONING

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence and the papers, as described hereinabove, are being transmitted via facsimile only-Fornal Entry, to the attention of Examiner Nguyen Assistant Commissioner for Patents, BOX AF, Washington, D.C. 20231, on August 5, 2002.

Facsimile No. (703) 872-9303

By: Kelly S. Waltigney

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FINAL OFFICE ACTION RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated June 4, 2002, please consider the following remarks in connection with the above application.

Remarks

The Final Office Action dated June 4, 2002 indicated that claims 1-4, 6, 8, 10-12 and 17-19 stand rejected under §102(b) in view of *Renteln* (U.S. Patent No. 5,664,987); claims 5, 7 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the '987 reference in view of *Yang* (U.S. Patent No. 6,113,462); and claims 14-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the '987 reference in view of *Hu et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,227,947).

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the following remarks. For the reasons set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention is in condition for allowance.

In regard to the merits of the rejections, which are all based upon the '987 reference, Applicant submits that the Section 102(b) rejection is improper because the Examiner failed to cite a portion of a reference that teaches or suggests every element of the presently-claimed